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TIMES • LEADER  
**WW II**  
 HOMETOWN HEROES



**Friends & Family**

Deep group on Midway Island. Andrew Scherbeck was shipped to Baker Island and Andrew Kuznetski and Peter Lisinski remained at Hickam. After over nine months in the Gilberts, Joseph Kuznetski and William Melnyk returned to Hickam. Later on, Andrew Scherbeck returned from Baker Island. The five of us were separated by individually being returned to the U.S. for assignment at different air bases in the east. As the war progressed towards a successful conclusion, discharge was the next thing on our mind. At discharge, Andrew Kuznetski and Joseph Kuznetski were ranked staff sergeant, Andrew Scherbeck and William Melnyk were ranked sergeant and Peter Lisinski was ranked corporal. The total length of service for each was in excess of five years with more than four spent overseas.

**Eugene Markoski,  
 Theodora Markoski**

*As told by Eugene Markoski in the Naval publication "The Mariner" October 27, 1943*

**N**avy Day last year, I was on a destroyer in the middle of a very stormy sea. It was pretty rugged, we had a rough time getting to our watches. The chief said it was the roughest he had seen in 20 years. Nevertheless we all knew it was Navy Day, and we had a sense of pride to belong to the greatest Navy in the world.

We were convoying ships to Casablanca. There were plenty of scares and the going was rough, but we had a grand captain and a swell crew and we weren't afraid. Our vigilance was rewarded to have delivered to convoy.

My next trip was to Guadalcanal. It was pretty uneventful until we were ordered to protect a landing on enemy shores. Then all hell broke loose. We sank two Japanese ships, then we were hit by two torpedoes. It was midnight, I was hit by a projectile that dropped on my head causing concussion. I was helped along by my shipmate. We were given the order to abandon ship. I still do not know how I swam to another ship through oil about two inches thick, and enemy planes strafing. Somehow I got on



Eugene Markoski of Hometown Heroes was a fireman on a Navy destroyer and was wounded when his ship, the USS Brown, was hit in battle with the Japanese in the Solomons Islands in 1943. His sister Theodora then joined the Navy to replace him.



**EUGENE & THEODORA MARKOSKI**  
 Hometown Heroes  
 Wilkes-Barre  
 Branch Navy  
 Rank Fireman 2nd Class/Water  
 Location of Service Pacific  
 Job during War Fireman/Boatman



This map shows where Eugene Markoski's ship, the USS Brown, was sunk during battle with the Japanese in the Solomons Islands in 1943. The ship was sunk on October 27, 1943.



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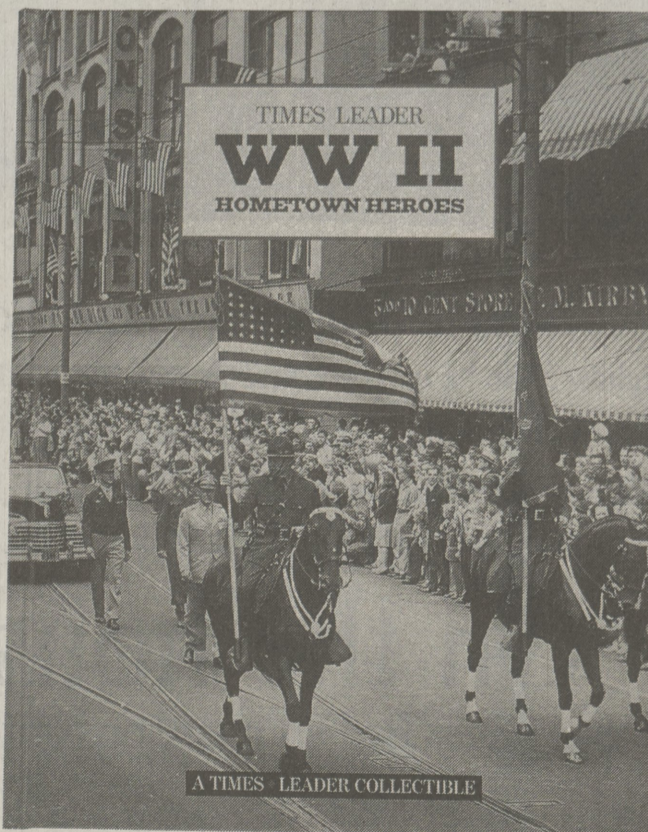
THE NAVY DEPARTMENT DEEPLY REGRETS TO INFORM YOU THAT YOUR SON EUGENE MARKOSKI FIREMAN SECOND CLASS UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE HAS BEEN WOUNDED IN ACTION IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTY AND IN THE SERVICE OF HIS COUNTRY. THE DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES YOUR GREAT ANXIETY BUT EXTENT OF WOUNDS NOT NOW AVAILABLE AND DELAY IN RECEIPT OF DETAILS MUST NECESSARILY BE EXPECTED BUT WILL BE FURNISHED YOU PROMPTLY IF RECEIVED. TO PREVENT POSSIBLE AID TO OUR ENEMIES PLEASE DO NOT DIVULGE THE NAME OF HIS SHIP OR STATION.

REAR ADMIRAL RANDALL JACOBS THE CHIEF OF NAVAL PERSONNEL.

The Markoski family of Hometown Heroes contributed the work and her daughter to military service in World War II and Korea. Left to right are Ray (Army), Theodora (Navy), and Eugene (Navy).



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